

**Lieutenant Governor
Joseph E. Kernan, Director**
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ONE NORTH CAPITOL, SUITE 700
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
TEL 317 232 8800
www.indianacommerce.com

For Immediate Release: March 20, 2002
For More Information Contact: Joan Friedman, 317.232.8688

State to Host Conference on Emerging Energy Technologies

INDIANAPOLIS — On Friday, March 22, the Indiana Department of Commerce's Energy Policy Division (EPD) will host a conference on distributed generation and combined heat & power.

Distributed generation (DG) and combined heat & power (CHP) have the potential to decrease power bills and increase energy reliability. DG is the generation of electricity on or near the site of its use. CHP, or "cogeneration," is a form of DG in which companies offset their utility bills by using the waste heat given off by generating equipment to create steam, hot water or hot air. Renewable energy technologies such as photovoltaic and biomass are also forms of DG.

Conference attendees will receive and discuss the results of a study of the economic viability of DG and CHP technologies in Indiana. The study, conducted by R.W. Beck, Inc., involved the survey of several hundred Indiana companies and the completion of six case studies. R.W. Beck evaluated which technologies made the best economic sense for each of the six case study sites. The study was contracted by Caterpillar, Inc., which won a 1999 State Energy Program Special Project (SEP-SP) grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to undertake this market analysis.

Caterpillar, the U.S. Department of Energy, EPD and the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission will also give presentations at the conference.

This event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Room B of the Conference Center in the Indiana Government Center South Building located at 402 West Washington, just west of the State House in Indianapolis.

Persons interested in attending may review the conference agenda, register and receive course materials online at <http://www.cat-customerevents.com/>. The conference is listed chronologically under the "Events" section.

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For more information about the conference or other energy-related Commerce programs, please contact Ethan Rogers at the Energy Policy Division, 317.232.8940, or visit the Web site at www.indianacommerce.com.

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